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SSCI SASC

HPSCI

1 December 1987

3 December 1987

OCA 87-6252

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of SSCI, SASC and HPSCI Staff on
Post-INF Balance of Forces in Europe
and the Far East, 1 and 3 December

1. Agency officers briefed Congressional staffers on 1 December concerning post-INF balance of conventional and nuclear Soviet forces affecting Europe and the Far East. [redacted] presented the review on 1 December from 1000 to 1200 hours at 219 Hart Building. The briefing was classified TS/Codeword. A transcript was made.

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2. In preparation for the two briefings, a secure-line conference call was set up on 25 November in which Agency officers reviewed the principal points of the next two briefings for Gary Sojka. [redacted]

[redacted] and the undersigned.

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1 December - Europe

The following individuals attended the 1 December briefing: CIA [redacted]

[redacted] from DI/SOVA; Gary Crocker, Debra Cagan and Vann Vandiepen. State/INR: for DIA. [redacted]

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Congressional staff personnel attending the briefing were Dave Holliday, John Despres, Blythe Thomas, George Tenet, Gary Sojka, Jeanne McNaughton, Natalie Bocock, Mike Mattingly, Merrill Kelly, Gina Genton, Marvin Ott and Ed Levine from the SSCI; from HPSCI, Jack Keliher and Bernie Toon; from SASC, Bob Bott.

For the Europe phase, the briefers reviewed Soviet strategy from the 1960s to the 1980s, explaining the evolution of the USSR's perception of NATO strength. Viewgraphs with charts and maps were used. There was an extended discussion of different scenarios under which the Soviets would shift from a [redacted]

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The 1 December briefing was very well received. Several staffers took the initiative to compliment the [redacted] team. Jack Keliher mentioned to the undersigned that he would arrange for the briefing to be given to Congressman McCurdy.

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[redacted]

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3 December - Far East

The briefing on the Far East balance of forces took place at the Hart Building from 1330 to 1530 hours. 3 December. [redacted]

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[redacted] A transcript was made and the briefing was given at the TS/Codeword level.

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Congressional staffers attending were Gary Sojka, Jeanne McNaughton, Larry Kettlewell, Mike Mattingly, Bob Morgan, Dave Holliday, Blythe Thomas, Ed Levine, and Marvin Ott. Bob Bott of SASC staff attended.

[redacted] outlined the status of Soviet conventional and nuclear capabilities in the Far East, pointing out the fact that this theater is of secondary importance to Moscow in its overall military strategy -- primary importance going to Europe. Scenarios for military action against Japan, Korea and China were outlined [redacted]

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[redacted] Soviet perception of U.S. military support or involvement in war in the Far East was discussed.

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DIA officers provided their Agency's view of problems apparently encountered by Soviet planners in developing strategy for the China missile threat. It was slightly different from the DI/SOVA assessment.

It should be noted that Sojka of the SSCI staff continued to probe for specific sourcing in several instances during the briefing. He asked if certain conclusions had incorporated HUMINT information; he also asked for [redacted] which led to certain conclusions. The answers provided by the briefers were circumspect [redacted]

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[redacted]
Senate Division

Office of Congressional Affairs

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